

NEW YORK HERALD

BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT,
PROPRIETOR.All business or news letter and telegraphic
despatches must be addressed NEW YORK
HERALD.

Volume XXXVI.....No. 338

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, corner of 3rd st. and 2nd st.—
THE THREE GARDENERS.FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE, Twenty-fourth street.—
THE NEW DRAMA OF DIVORCE.LINA EDWINA THEATRE, No. 70 Broadway.—OPERA
BOUFFE—LE PONT DES SOUFFES.NIBLO'S GARDEN, Broadway, between Prince and
Houston streets.—OUR AMERICAN COUSIN.BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery.—THE HAUNTED CHAMBER—
A TERNAL TEMPTATION.WALLACK'S THEATRE, Broadway and 11th street.—
ROMAN.OLYMPIC THEATRE, Broadway.—THE BALLET FANTASIE
OF HUPPY DUMPE.BOOTH'S THEATRE, 2nd st., between 3rd and 4th ave.—
HAROLD.ACADEMY OF MUSIC, Fourteenth street.—ITALIAN
OPERA—MISCON.WOOD'S MUSKUM, Broadway, corner 38th st.—Perform-
ances after and evening.—LIFE IN THE STREETS.THEATRE COMIQUE, 514 Broadway.—COMIC VOCAL
UNION, NEW ACTS, &c.UNION SQUARE THEATRE, Fourteenth st. and Broad-
way.—NEURO ACTS—BULLDOG, BALLET, &c.THIRTY-FOURTH STREET THEATRE, near Third ave.—
NEURO ECKENTROTTER, VOCALISTS, &c.MRS. F. S. CONWAY'S BROOKLYN THEATRE—
GOLD DUST.PARK THEATRE, opposite City Hall, Brooklyn.—WILD
CAT.TONY PASTORS OPERA HOUSE, No. 201 Bowery.—
NEURO ECKENTROTTER, BULLDOG, &c.BRYANT'S NEW OPERA HOUSE, 2nd st., between 3rd
and 4th ave.—BRYANT'S MINSTRELS.SAN FRANCISCO MINSTREL HALL, 355 Broadway.—
THE SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS.NEW YORK CIRCUS, Fourteenth street.—SCENES IN
THE RING, AGRICULTURE, &c.DR. KATZ'S ANATOMICAL MUSEUM, 746 Broadway.—
SCIENCE AND ART.

TRIPLE SHEET.

New York, Monday, December 4, 1871.

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THE PRINCE OF WALES' CASE remained almost unchanged yesterday. The fever maintained its hold, but the symptoms were not more unfavorable.

TACKLING TO THE WINDWARD.—The "Sage of Onapagga." The Carl Schurz and Gratz Brown Missouri fusion free trade platform is not the cheese for the old protectionists.

THE CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE elect a United States Senator this week. Mr. Sargent, who has long been a Representative from that State, is supposed to have the best chance.

THERE WAS a tremendous anti-Jackson uproar in 1832, but Jackson won overwhelmingly. There will be a tremendous anti-Grant uproar in 1872—probably with a similar result unless the reformers are wide awake.

CONGRESS assembles to-day. Now let us know what the democratic Congressmen have to say about reconstruction, passivism, fusion, coalition, anti-Grantism and other characters in the play of "How to Win; or, a Race for the White House."

THE KU KLUX TRIALS in Columbia, S. C., are being held before mixed juries, in which the colored element heavily predominates. Ex-Archbishop General Stansbury and Reverend Johnson are retained for the alleged Ku Klux, and it is likely to require all their eloquence to move the colored jury, in whose ears the name of Ku Klux is associated with horrors, to have much sympathy for the prisoners.

THE WHARTON-KETCHUM MURDER TRIAL.—Mrs. Ellen G. Wharton, widow of the late Major H. Wharton, of the United States Army, will be placed on trial in Annapolis, Md., to-day, charged with having murdered General W. Scott Ketchum by poisoning. The case has been removed from Baltimore to Annapolis on motion of the prisoner's counsel. The position which Mrs. Wharton has hitherto held in aristocratic society in Maryland, the devotion and present sorrow of her daughter, the extraordinary charges which are made by the prosecution, and the array of testimony and counsel which will be presented to the Court, will render the trial one of the *causes celebres* of the criminal calendar of the age. A synopsis of the accusations which are made against Mrs. Wharton, with the main points of her defence, are published in the HERALD.

The Annexation of Mexico—A Fine Chance for General Grant.

None of General Grant's predecessors in the White House have had a finer opportunity than he has of adding to the glory and prosperity of this country, and of acquiring a great name in history. Mexico affords that opportunity. The annexation of that rich country would be of incalculable value to the wealth and commerce of the United States, a great boon to the Mexican people and a benefit to the world. If General Grant will make this the paramount question of his administration all other questions would be dwarfed in comparison. It would arouse national ambition, do more than anything else to destroy sectionalism, and the sectional feeling which resulted from our late war, extinguish the Ku Klux of the South, and unite the people of all the States in the one common cause of national expansion and glory. With this issue presented to the country General Grant would certainly be re-elected, and with scarcely any opposition worth speaking about. Then, should the President and his party fail to seize the opportunity afforded, the condition of Mexico is such that an opposition party may take up this popular question and ride into power through it. General Grant is patriotic, bold and broadly national enough in his views to make the annexation of Mexico his policy. He is in a position, too, to carry that policy out, for he could overwhelm any opposition that might be made to it in Congress. Has he the sagacity and grasp of mind to comprehend the importance of this matter and the prize that is within his reach? We shall soon know, as his Message to Congress to-day will indicate, no doubt, the course he is prepared to pursue with regard to Mexico.

Although the annexation of Mexico would meet, probably, with some opposition, this would be feeble, comparatively, and would soon fade away before the popular fervor of the mass of the people. There has been opposition always to annexation. Timid people and those excessively conservative, as well as hostile and time-serving politicians, will oppose, as they have always opposed, any government measure for the annexation of foreign territory. This was seen in the case of Texas, of Louisiana, of Florida and even in the cases of California, New Mexico and Arizona. But it is a remarkable fact that none of our prominent public men have ever opposed national expansion when the question has been taken up by the government without falling into disfavor and losing their popularity. Such a conflict with the sentiments of ambition, pride, glory and progress, which animate the American people, is never forgiven. We might refer to the conduct and history of Calhoun, Benton, Van Buren and other prominent men, who, for political objects or from a narrow-minded sectionalism, have opposed national expansion, to show that the most towering politicians may be wrecked upon this rock. Every one who has read the history of our country will remember the intensity of the opposition to annexation at different times by certain leading public men, particularly to the annexation of Louisiana and Texas. Yet, with the light which later history has shed on these acquisitions and the incalculable value of them to the country, we now wonder at the stupidity and short-sightedness of the anti-annexationists. So it would be with regard to Mexico, and so it will be on all such occasions.

The same sort of timid, over-prudent and sleepy conservatism will now probably prate about national honor, want of cause for annexing Mexico, the necessity of developing our present vast territory before we take more, the fear of war, the undesirable population that would be annexed and so forth. These are the same old arguments that have been used before—the same that were used when Louisiana and Texas were annexed. We want no better answer than history gives. Look at what these magnificent territories are now, and look, too, at that other glorious acquisition of California. Here is the answer to the timid and short-sighted conservatives who may oppose the annexation of Mexico. And have we not cause for annexing Mexico, war or no war, in accomplishing that? Great and progressive nations are never at a loss for a cause when a profound national policy or necessity calls for such action. Has Great Britain, Russia, Prussia, France, Italy or any other nation powerful enough, ever failed to seize an opportunity for acquiring territory that might add to its grandeur and prosperity? This has been more especially the case where the people of an adjoining nation have been a constant cause of trouble, danger, or incapability of self-government. But we are not without good and sufficient cause for taking Mexico. This republic has been for many years most kind and considerate to that neighboring republic, has saved it both from self-destruction and a foreign conqueror, and has borne more ingratitude and indignities than any other great Power would have endured. Even when it had possession of Mexico by conquest it gave back the territory to the Mexicans. No nation could have been more forbearing.

For years our country has been the prey of marauders and smugglers along the border of the Rio Grande. Millions a year have been lost to the revenue by smuggling along that border, our soil has been made the base of marauding bands and revolutionists, and American citizens have been plundered and otherwise injured by Mexican desperadoes. The government of Mexico has either turned a deaf ear to remonstrances or been powerless to prevent the evil. The Free Zone, as it is called along the Rio Grande border, has been kept up for the benefit of smugglers, to the great injury of our citizens, our trade, and at a loss, as was said, of millions a year to our revenue. All the remonstrances and efforts to prevent this by the United States have been in vain. Our government has at turns been deluded, cajoled by Mexican treachery, or told that the Mexican authorities were powerless to apply a remedy. In fact, there is no government in Mexico worthy of the name. Nor can there ever be. At the present time the whole country is in a ferment of revolution, and the prey of rival and unscrupulous chiefs. There is no security, and never will be, for our citizens along the Mexican border, until the country becomes annexed. This border, let it be remembered, extends for near fifteen hundred miles. The territory is only separated from ours, part of the distance, by the

narrow stream of the Rio Grande, and the rest of the way by an imaginary line. Mexico is not able to maintain peace and good neighborhood, and every year she is becoming more and more troublesome and dangerous. We have many other serious complaints against that turbulent country had we space to enumerate them. The bill of indictment is long enough and had enough to call for energetic measures and for the complete absorption of the whole territory from the Arizona line to Central America.

By the annexation of Mexico we should give peace to that country. The Mexicans themselves would soon learn to bless the United States for the benefit conferred. The rich silver, quicksilver, copper, gold and other mines would soon be developed in an extraordinary manner, and the boundless agricultural and other resources would be brought out to enrich both the Mexicans and our own country. The different States would become so many new Californias in wealth and prosperity under the rule and enterprise of Americans. Railroads and the telegraph would penetrate every section, and tens of thousands of our people would go to the splendid tropical table lands for health and pleasure. Mexico would rise, like the phoenix from its ashes. The six or seven millions of docile and industrious peons would have a new motive for labor, and the country would blossom as a rose. The United States would have a monopoly of the silver and quicksilver productions of the world, besides a vast increase to the product of gold, copper and other minerals. The Indians of Tehuantepec would become ours, besides a number of valuable ports, both in the Pacific and Gulf of Mexico. In short, the imagination would hardly realize all the advantages to both Mexico and the United States which annexation would bring. This is the great question for the administration and the dominant republican party. It is the grandest opportunity General Grant could have. What says the President? Will he make the annexation of Mexico the policy of his administration?

The Meeting of Congress—The Opening of a New Chapter in Our Political History.

The reassembling of the two houses of Congress to-day will be an event of more than ordinary importance. It will give us in the President's Message the platform of General Grant and of the republican party for the great national contest of 1872. In this view we expect a very interesting Message, and a Message calculated to meet the general approval of the country, to a great extent, on the important subjects of the national revenues, the national debt, the reduction of our national taxes, internal and external; the Mormon polygamy question, the Ku Klux Klan, our Indian brethren, our Oriental relations and our relations with Spain and Mexico. We suppose, too, that as in all the State elections of the passing year, from Connecticut to New York, the republican party has fought its battles and won its victories under the banner of the administration, the members of the party in both houses of Congress, with a few exceptions, will promptly take their position in favor of General Grant and his policy for another Presidential term.

But what is to become of these exceptional radicals—such as Senators Sumner, Trumbull, Logan, Schurz and Fenton? Where will they go? This is now, in connection with the demoralized democracy, the main question; and it is upon this matter of a reorganization of the democratic party that this meeting of Congress will be the opening of a new chapter in the political history of the country. The prevailing idea just now among the democratic managers is a new departure, tantamount to a breaking up of the old worn out party machine. Here we have some of the party doctors recommending the Missouri fusion policy—the policy of permitting the disaffected republicans to organize a new anti-Grant party, as a nucleus in the front, in support of which the democracy, rank and file, may rally as volunteers in the rear. Here we have Mr. Voorhees, of Indiana, recommending first a National Democratic Convention at once to reorganize the party, and then another meeting at a later day for the purpose of nominating a Presidential ticket. Here we have it proposed that the democrats shall adopt as their candidate some bolting republican, such as Sumner, Trumbull, Gratz Brown or Greeley, without the encumbrance of a party platform of any sort, and here we have the platform of Carl Schurz, submitted as the elixir of life. Here we have a party doctor proposing a joint consultation of democrats and republican soreheads, and here comes up another who urges the great Pennsylvania railway king, Tom Scott, as the Hercules, who, with his five hundred locomotive power, can surely pull the democratic apple cart out of the mud.

All these propositions will now come before the democrats in Congress as the dry nurses of their party. They will, doubtless, first hold a caucus to consider their line of legislative action in reference to the President's recommendations, and they will next, perhaps, proceed to "interview" Messrs. Sumner, Trumbull, Schurz, Fenton and other republican malcontents on the subject of a coalition against Grant. There will probably be some counting of noses and comparing of votes in Washington among these parties to-night, and we may have some light thrown upon the subject in our reports from the national capital before to-morrow morning. We expect, too, before many days are over, among the miscellaneous propositions of resolution day in the House, some Presidential feelers which will compel all doubtful customers to show their hands. One thing is certain, and that is, that upon the threshold of the Presidential contest every man in Congress will be compelled to define his position—Grant or anti-Grant—and of another thing, we have no doubt, and that is that after taking soundings the democrats will agree that neither the project of falling in behind the republican soreheads nor the scheme of a joint stock accommodation Presidential ticket will pay expenses in 1872.

THIRTY-FIVE INDICTMENTS have been found against the mob who massacred the Chinese in Los Angeles. In a country where Chinese life is so little account as in California it is not likely that the indictments will amount to much.

Spanish Barbarism in Cuba.

The letter which we publish to-day from our correspondent will, deepen the horror and indignation which was felt by the civilized world at the assassination of the Cuban students for an act that would have been severely punished by a short term of imprisonment. The provocation offered to the Spanish volunteers by the thoughtless act of a few young men was made to assume a political importance which did not belong to it, for the purpose of in some way justifying the barbarous vengeance which was wreaked on the offending students. But it will be seen from our correspondent's letter that even this flimsy excuse has been taken from the authors of the most cowardly crime of modern days. So far from any political demonstration having been intended, it now appears that the students visited the cemetery for the object of pursuing their anatomical studies in the dead house, which is within the grounds. And it was while engaged in those studies that the suggestion to mark their disapproval of the Spanish cause was made, and acted upon without reflection. In a moment of reprehensible folly the young men offered insult to the grave of Castañon, a proceeding with which we can have no sympathy; but the civilized world has lost sight of the indiscretion in view of the terrible vengeance which has been taken with such relentless cruelty by the Spanish authorities. Nor will the poor excuse that the blood of these young men has been offered up to appease the clamors of a bloodthirsty soldiery avail aught before the tribunal of public opinion. By the action of her responsible representatives Spanish rule in Cuba has lost all claims to be considered civilized, and the people would be fully justified in placing those public assassins outside the pale of law and treating them as brigands and murderers. A few more such acts of barbarism, and it will become a question how long we shall permit civilization to be outraged at our doors with impunity. Spanish orators and governors mistake the calm and dispassionate representations of our government and press for weakness or pusillanimity; but there is a limit even to our patience, and if once the popular voice shall definitely demand that the Spanish outrages in Cuba shall cease, no government will dare long to refuse obedience to the popular will. Had the victims of the latest act of barbarism been confirmed political offenders, or even men taken with arms in their hands fighting for what they thought the rights of their country, we should not have considered their execution justifiable under the circumstance of their trial. No such mockery of justice has taken place since the maddened *saps cutters* filled the halls of justice in Paris and demanded the blood of the aristocrats. The scene at Havana, on the occasion of the trial of the murdered students, had more than one point of resemblance with the darkest days of French history, and we can see in the blood-thirsty volunteers who forced General Clavijo to return to his place on the court martial the worthy rivals of Marat's butchers. Whatever excuse may be offered for the maddened and oppressed Frenchmen, who at least sought vengeance on a class that had grievously injured them, none can be offered for the men who clamored for the blood of boys because they had foolishly and wantonly desecrated a grave. Between the crime and the punishment there is such manifest disproportion that we stand aghast, and are really unable to realize that men with human hearts could be capable of so much cruelty. The sense of public indignation is dulled by the very enormity of the crime which challenges our condemnation; but when the depth and atrocity of the outrage are fully realized there will arise a universal cry for justice on the assassins. In setting at defiance every principle of justice, the opinions of the civilized world, and making a code to themselves, the Spanish authorities are but hastening the end which is inevitable. The people of the United States are not much inclined to aggressive war, but if the spirit of the age is to be defied and a rule of barbarism set up just at our doors we shall be compelled, in the interest of humanity, to bring it to an end. The shooting to death of the eight students at Havana may for a moment have repressed by terror the disaffection of the Cubans, but it has created a feeling in this country that will not die away with the report of the murderous volley of Spain's soldier assassins. The iron grasp in which Valmaseda and his companions hold the Queen of the Antilles may prove to be but the death clutch of Spanish power in America.

TOO MANY IRONS IN THE FIRE.—"Boss Tweed," it appears, with the flush times of the "Ring," had entered into many enterprises, including American Clubs, sample rooms, hotels, savings banks, real estate and Croton water speculations, railroads and newspapers. Perhaps it was in view of a removal to the United States Treasury in Washington with a democratic Tammany administration in 1873 that he dipped pretty heavily into the speculation of a newspaper organ at Washington; but having sold out his interest therein—cheap for cash—we infer that he has abandoned his grand idea of taking charge in 1873 of the one hundred millions in the United States Treasury. Because why? Too many irons in the fire and too much fire for the irons.

THE LATEST THING OUT.—The anti-Grant Presidential programme of Mrs. Cady Stanton, of a fusion party against General Grant, without a platform, and with a separate Presidential candidate for each of the States. This would make thirty-seven, and if a combination of thirty-seven opposition candidates can't beat Grant he can't be beaten at all. By the way, it is a curious fact that all the women's rights women, married or single, are in favor of a "new departure" and a scrub race.

THE STATEMENT that Mr. Bancroft Davis' presentation of the case of the United States in regard to the Alabama claims question, for submission to the Geneva Conference, is unsatisfactory to the American members of the Commission, is denied. Mr. Davis' intimate acquaintance with the subject and the thorough knowledge of the intentions of the original Joint High Commission, which he obtained as Secretary to the American half of that historical Convention, certainly render him fully competent to present the case in a most exhaustive statement.

The Report of the Secretary of War.

The annual report of the Secretary of War, which we publish this morning, is quite an interesting document. It covers the different branches of the service, with all essential details. The Secretary starts out with the announcement that the reorganization of the army required by the act of Congress of July 15, 1870, has been accomplished. The total number of enlisted men now in the service is thirty thousand. The number of staff officers has been reduced, and line officers detached for staff duty have been sent back to their regiments. The financial figures show a gradual and a great reduction in the expenditures. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1869, they were over eighty and a half millions of dollars; 1870, over fifty-seven and a half millions, and 1871, about forty millions. For the next fiscal year the appropriations amount to a little over thirty-six and a half millions, and the estimates for 1873 are a little less than thirty-two and a half millions. These include the cost of river and harbor improvements. Thus it is shown that the reduction in expenses in the War Department during the years 1869-70 amounted to nearly twenty-three millions of dollars, and during the year 1870-71 there was a further reduction of over seventeen and a half millions, while the subsequent appropriations and estimates point to a continued decrease in the expenses. The Secretary suggests that the services of extra lieutenants now authorized by law to act as regimental adjutants and quartermasters can be dispensed with, and that the positions now occupied by certain non-commissioned officers can be discontinued without injury to the service. While the troops have been well clothed and fed and comparatively well sheltered, he recommends that adequate appropriations be made to increase their comfort. Modifications and improvements are being made in our seacoast and harbor defences in accordance with the requirements of modern warfare.

Special reference is made to the important achievements of the Signal Corps in connection with the meteorological observations. It was only so recently as October last that the display of cautionary signals announcing the probable approach of storms was commenced for the first time in the United States at twenty ports upon the lakes and the Atlantic and Gulf coasts, and they have already proved of great practical importance to our commercial interests. It has been ascertained that of the deductions published from the Signal Office sixty-nine per cent are, after a careful examination of the statistics, considered to have been fully verified; and this percentage increased by those recorded as practically verified will make an aggregate of ninety per cent of average verification. This speaks well for the Signal Service, which in this special branch, as the Secretary says, is more extensive and better organized in the United States than in any other country in the world.

The report shows the prompt relief afforded by the War Department to the sufferers by the Western fires, suggests a remedy for defalcations by a more careful and systematic scrutiny of officers' accounts, and closes with an allusion to the necessity for the continued employment of troops in States of the South for the suppression of the Ku Klux. Secretary Belknap says it is a painful fact, which merits serious consideration, that indisputable evidence establishes the fact that "an armed rebellion of regular organization and great strength exists in parts of those States," and "so long as it exists, so long will it be necessary to aid the civil authorities with the armed force of the nation in putting down this second rebellion and in bringing its leaders to speedy punishment."

The Connolly Case—Application for a Decrease of Bail.

An application is to be made in the Supreme Court to-day, either before Judge Learned, in Albany, or Judge Hogeboom, in Columbia county, on the part of ex-Comptroller Connolly, for a decrease in the amount of bail fixed by the former in the suit brought by the Attorney General against the city officials and contractors alleged to be implicated in the municipal frauds. It is held, on the part of the defendant Connolly that one million dollars, requiring sureties to justify in double that sum, is "excessive bail," and as such is in violation of the constitution. The Court has, of course, the power of deciding for itself whether or not the amount is "excessive" under the circumstances of the case, but it is certainly a very difficult thing, when brought to a practical test, to obtain sureties who can justify in two million dollars of unnumbered real estate. The real point is whether the interests of the people will suffer by reducing the bail to such a sum as will enable the ex-Comptroller to gain his liberty. The present suit is a civil one, and is brought only to recover from the defendants the amount alleged to have been improperly and dishonestly taken by them from the city treasury. The bail is required to insure the appearance of the defendants in Court on the action, so that they may not fly the country after having disposed of their property in such a manner as to prevent recovery in case of a judgment for the people. The sureties are released as soon the defendants appear, and the bail does not cover any judgment that may be recovered. The incarceration of the parties in such a case does not subserve any good end, unless it may be to prevent the sale or transfer of their property, and this can be better accomplished by an injunction such as has been obtained, although probably at too late a day, in the instance of William M. Tweed. In criminal proceedings, where such gross and wholesale frauds are charged to have been committed, any bail might be properly refused, arbitrary as such a decision may appear, provided that the accused be insured a speedy trial. It is necessary that an example be made of the men who have so shamefully abused the trust confided in them, and if criminally indicted no chance should be afforded them of escaping the punishment due to their crimes by forcing an amount of bail that after all could be but a fraction of the large aggregate of their plunder. But, as we have said, the present suit is a civil one; a judgment, if obtained, would be paid and no incarceration

of the defendants would follow. We can, therefore, see no reason why the bail should not be placed at such a sum as would render it possible for the defendant to procure his sureties, provided the necessary steps are taken to guard against the sale or transfer of his property so as to prevent the collection of a judgment.

Pulpit Doctrines Yesterday.

With the approach of Christmas there seems to have come over our ministerial friends a solemnity which hardly accords with the joy that the Saviour's coming originally brought to the earth or that the commemoration of that event should inspire. Nor does it agree very well with the festivities of Thanksgiving through which we have just passed. The great theme in all the Catholic churches yesterday was the advent of the Saviour. The Rev. Father McNeirny in the Cathedral, Father McCredy in St. Stephen's and Father Dwyer in St. Paul's, touched on this subject. It came before them in the Gospel for the Day, and they drew that attention to it which its prominence as a doctrine of the Christian Church demands. Father Dwyer waxed eloquent over the terrible realities of the Judgment Day, which he portrayed in vivid colors so that his audience could not mistake his meaning. Sketching the different classes who stand before the judgment seat of Christ at last he said:—"On the one hand shall appear the murderer, the calumniator, the perjurer, the one who blasphemed and would not go to mass, the young lady that wasted her body in idleness and the round dance, the young man who in a reckless and sinful life found destruction and an early grave. Drunken children shall appear by the side of drunken parents, and among all the infidel who denied this doctrine and the atheist who scoffed at it." And then in his touching appeal to the despisers of the Divine grace and mercy, he pointedly asked if they did not feel glad that this great day has not yet come and for ever shut them off from repentance and from heaven. Dr. Ewer, in his new ritual Church of the Holy Light, discoursed also on the judgment, and said that "the punishments and rewards in the next world are awarded in proportion to the wickedness or goodness of the soul. Endless life is endless change. Movement is the order of existence. Nothing rests here; nothing can rest in the world of spirits." And apropos of this subject, Father Damen, in the Church of St. John the Evangelist, showed from the story of the Prodigal Son the condition of every man by nature, and the hearty welcome which his return to God will evoke.

Dr. Hepworth, in the Church of the Messiah, corroborated the Mosaic declaration of man's fall by the well-known and demonstrated facts of hereditary transmission of corrupt minds and bodies from father to son. Angels will have angelic children, and devils will have children with devilish impulses. On this fact the whole of Darwin's theory is based. The girl of a drunken mother sips rum as the girl of good parentage drinks milk. The debauched father pays the penalty of his guilt in the shrivelled and puny body of his boy. To be born of crime is to insure a career of crime. Five Points fathers and mothers beget Five Points children. And ancient history was called in, also, in support of this proposition. The Rev. Andrew Longacre preached on the very opposite of the sum of Dr. Hepworth's theme sin—holiness; and showed how it may be attained by any man who honestly strives after it. But our blind conceptions of God, as shown by the Rev. Mr. Powers, of Brooklyn, to Dr. Richardson's congregation, interferes with our approach to the mercy seat and our attainment of the highest bliss on earth. He very emphatically summed up those conceptions in the following stanza, which is as true as it is ludicrous:—

The Bishop God has Etnip top,
Black cheeks and woolly hair,
And the Grecian God a Grecian face
As keen-eyed, cold and fair.

Mr. Frothingham, as usual, gave himself a good swing around the circle, getting off a few smart things touching the current orthodox theology. "If there is a God He is here," and said he, "if the account books of the world were to be balanced this instant they would come out square." This is rather encouraging for some poor fellows who let their ledger accounts with the Almighty run on until they know not how much they owe or are owed. But the orthodox folks who want to frighten careless young men and women into goodness and virtue make, according to Mr. Frothingham, a sad mistake when they picture "heaven about a quarter the size of hell, and make the latter a place of perpetual torment." If man would give one hour striving for goodness where they spend one hundred hours striving for gold they would, he believed, reach a much higher development. We believe so too. That is the misfortune of our race that gold and not glory is the thing most sought after.

In Christ church (Protestant Episcopal) Bishop Potter yesterday read the Episcopal letter on ritualism adopted at the late Convention in Baltimore, a synopsis of which was published in the HERALD at the time. It is a lengthy document, and, like the famous "Foley injunction" granted by Judge Barnard, both sides can find what they want in it. Nothing is positively forbidden nor recommended. It simply says in substance to the ritualists, "Please don't go too far with your practices, but if you keep within the Prayer Book you shall find warrant there for a moderate kind of auricular confession, a proper respect for the Blessed Virgin and some little notice of the saints in your devotions. But don't make these things too prominent or the 'Low Church' people will protest more loudly than they have done heretofore."

So much has been written and published lately on the tricks and tipplings of certain pieces of furniture in Plymouth church, it was certainly believed Mr. Beecher would take some notice of it and would, perhaps, account for some of the "wonderful manifestations." Last night he preached on spiritualism, but did not say the first thing about table-tipping to gratify the itching ears of any one in his vast audience. His spiritualism is that of the Bible, wherein God is shown by His Holy Spirit to knock on the fleshly tables of human hearts, and wherein angels are described as ministering spirits to those who are to be